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Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Letter dated 15 September 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The present letter is submitted further to a request by nine countries for the inclusion in the provisional agenda of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly of an item to review General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971 on the representation of China at the United Nations.

The Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis associates with and continues to applaud the significant steps the government of the Republic of China on Taiwan has been making in advancing the human condition in social, economic and political terms, not only within its own geographical boundaries but also in far-flung corners of the globe. These critical successes, bolstered by the strong democratic institutions on Taiwan, must be complemented and encouraged within the context of greater cooperation and understanding from the international fraternity of nations.

The tremendous progress of the Chinese people on Taiwan cannot be ignored, nor can we afford to isolate the significance of their propelling developments. Their commitment and willingness to work within the rules governing democratic, law-abiding countries augur well for greater prosperity in terms of human development, peaceful coexistence and security in Asia. We encourage both sides of the Taiwan Straits to work to develop new and dynamic strategies that are practical, contemporary and appropriate to the current situation, guided by the reality that the huge Chinese population on Taiwan represents a significant voice in the world.

With reference to the intention of the co-sponsors of the draft resolution, the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis, in recognizing the importance of resolving the issue, welcomes the decision by both sides on the Taiwan Straits to resume talks later this year. We believe that the historical and current dynamism of the Chinese people suggests a capability to arrive at a practical resolution that will lend substance to the collective aspirations of all Chinese and allow the world community to benefit from their experience, expertise and goodwill.

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I have the further honour to request that the present note be circulated as a General Assembly document under agenda item 18 of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Kevin M. **Isaac**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.